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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,253	12/13/2001	Jie Bian	384.7469USU	3845
7590 01/25/2007 Paul D. Greeley, Esq. Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P. 10th Floor One Landmark Square Stamford, CT 06901-2682			EXAMINER TROTTER, SCOTT S	
			ART UNIT 3694	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/25/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/021,253	BIAN, JIE	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Scott S. Trotter	3694	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-14 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kwon and Feroz (IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, Vol. 7, No. 5, September 1996 hereafter Kwon) in view of Tom (US Patent 5,696,907).

As per claim 1, Kwon teaches:

A system for providing a user with a higher risk score indicating the likelihood that a business under inquiry by the user may be involved in questionable activity (See *Abstract*) comprising:

- a. means for evaluating how closely the profile of the business under inquiry matches those of businesses already confirmed as higher risk (See *III. Methodology*)
- b. wherein a neural network model is capable of capturing the way multiple data elements inter-relate and thereby of recognizing patterns indicative of questionable activity, (See *III. Methodology B. Neural-Network Architecture*) and
- c. means for transmitting a report of such risk to the user.

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While Kwon does not explicitly teach a means for transmitting a report of a risk to the user Tom teaches using a computer system to have a neural net analyze a problem and output the results to the user. (*See Column 3 Lines 53-55 "output device such as a display and printer"*) It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to put Kwon's system for finding suggestions of financial fraud into Tom's computer system because Tom called for the application of neural nets to commercial credit evaluation. (*See Column 7 Lines 34-35.*)

As per claim 5 Kwon teaches:

A system, as defined in claim 4, including means for identifying the patterns of questionable activity. (*See Abstract*)

As per claim 8 Kwon teaches:

A system as defined in claim 1, wherein the evaluated business is given different scores based on how closely its patterns match those of confirmed risk businesses. (*See Abstract*)

As per claims 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 Kwon teaches a system for providing risk score as discussed in claim 1. Kwon does not specifically teach the distinctions as cited in claims 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7. However, Tom teaches:

Regarding claim 2: A system, as defined in claim 1, including the variables (a) History Indicator (*See Column 4 Lines 58-59*), (i) Ownership of Facility (*See Column 4 Line 46*), and (l) Inquiry Spike (*See Column 4 Lines 51-53*). As per claim 3, Tom teaches:

A system, as defined in claim 1, further comprising a network (a network is defined by Webster's as a means for connecting computers together; as shown by Figure 1 there

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must be a means of connecting the computers.) and, connected to the network, a programmed computer (*See Column 3 Lines 46-49*), a user interface (*See Column 3 Lines 51-55*), a means for gathering data elements concerning a plurality of businesses (*See Column 53-55*), a database having a record of the businesses appended with their respective data elements in the form of variables (*See Figure 1 element 14*), or data elements, wherein the neural data elements, assigns weights to the elements to produce a weighted sum (*See Column 3 Lines 1-4*) wherein higher weighted sums meaning a higher high risk score. (The neural nets are optimized to produce a result indicating whether an individual is a good credit risk for this transaction.) As per claim 4 Tom teaches: A system, as defined in claim 3, providing means for feeding the data elements into the neural network model. (*See Figure 1*) As per claim 6 Tom teaches: A system, as defined in claim 5, including means for assigning weights to the data elements to produce a weighted sum. (*See Column 6 Lines 7-25*) As per claim 7 Tom teaches: A system, as defined in claim 6, providing means for calculating a weighted sum. (*See Column 7 Lines 7-25*) It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to put Kwon's system for finding suggestions of financial fraud into Tom's computer system because Tom called for the application of neural nets for credit evaluation (*See Column 7 Lines 34-35*) which is something that Kwon has a major effect on since an SEC investigation can destroy a company.

As per claim 9, see the rationale of claim 1.

As per claim 10, see the rationale of claim 2.

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As per claim 11, see the rationale of claim 4.

As per claim 12, see the rationale of claim 5.

As per claim 13, see the rationale of claim 6.

As per claim 14, see the rationale of claim 7.

Conclusion

1. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Scott S. Trotter, whose telephone number is 571-272-7366. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM, M-F.
2. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell, can be reached on 571-272-6712.
3. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).
4. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(571) 273-8300

(Official Communications; including After Final
Communications labeled "BOX AF")

(571) 273-6705

(Draft Communications)

Scott Trotter
1/17/2007



MARY D. CHEUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER